programme during each of the last three years in different States; and

(b) the extent of increase taken place in the forest area during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The amount spent on afforestation/tree planting activities under the 20—Point Programme during the last three years is as given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

1988—89	588.36
1989—90	506.87
1990—91	612.86*

* Tentative

(b) The Forest Survey of India carries out periodical assessment of increase/decrease of forest areas in the country. The assessment for the last three years has not been finalised.

Konkan Rail Project

3151. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the Konkan Rail Project so far;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for the expeditious completion of the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Work on Construction of the Konkan Rail Project has been entrusted to an autonomous body 'Konkan Railway Corporation'. Work on Roha to Dasgaon and Mangalore to Udipi sections is expected to be completed by June'92. Work on other sections is in progress.

(b) All assistance is given by the Ministry of Railways to the Corporation in expeditious completion of the project.

(c) The time of completion of the Project will depend on the availability of funds.

[*Translation*]

Research in Vedic Mathematics

3152. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote research in Vedic mathematics; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Government with the help of Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry has taken following steps to promote research in vedic mathematics and organised:—

— Two Workshops and one Round Table discussion respectively at Jaipur, Ahmedabad and Delhi

— A Conference—cum—workshop at Bangalore in joint collaboration between Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan and Abhinav Vidya Bharati.

— Commissioned three monographs on vedic mathematics.